

CLAIM AMENDMENTS

1. (canceled)

1 2. (currently amended) A method of making a vascular
2 prosthesis or tissue web of [[of]] biocompatible polyurethane,
3 polyamide, polysulfone, polyester, isotactic polypropylene,
4 polynitrile or polyvinylchloride, mixtures thereof or their
5 copolymers, with a microporous finely fibular structure,
6 characterized by a definitive stretching (extension) with a degree
7 of extension between 30% and 150%, and subsequent relaxation.

1 3. (previously presented) The method according to claim
2 2 wherein a pore size of the vascular prosthesis or of the tissue
3 patch before the stretching is less than an extended dimension
4 expected prior to stretching and beyond which the vascular
5 prosthesis or tissue patch does not retract.

1 4. (previously presented) The method according to claim
2 2 wherein the stretching is a uniaxial or biaxial stretching.

1 5. (previously presented) The method according to claim
2 2 wherein the vascular prosthesis or the tissue patch prior to the
3 stretching is soaked in polyvinylalcohol (PVA),

4 polyvinylpyrrolidone or gelatine (collagen) that is completely or
5 partially drawn into the vascular prosthesis or the tissue patch on
6 an outer side thereof.

1 6. (previously presented) The method according to claim
2 2 wherein the vascular prosthesis is tubular and for stretching a
3 requisite pressure is applied from the interior with air or N₂, or
4 with a liquid medium.

1 7. (previously presented) The method according to claim
2 6 wherein to avoid leakage, a yieldable auxiliary body is
3 introduced into the vascular prosthesis to be stretched and is
4 thereafter pressurized with a pressure applying medium.

1 8. (previously presented) The method according to claim
2 5 wherein the stretching is carried out with an auxiliary body
3 capable of mechanical size adjustment upon which the tissue patch
4 is previously clamped or which is introduced into the tubular
5 prosthesis.

1 9. (previously presented) The method according to claim
2 5 wherein for widening a tubular vascular prosthesis, a drawing
3 mandrel is used.

1 10. (previously presented) The method according to claim
2 2 wherein to produce the vascular prosthesis or the tissue patch at
3 least one aliphatic and/or at least one cycloaliphatic diisocyanate
4 is reacted with a polycarbonate, polyester, polyether, polysiloxane,
5 or polysulfone macrodiol with an average molecular weight of 500 to
6 6000, whereby the ratio of NCO terminal groups of the prepolymer to
7 OH groups of the chain lengthening agent is 1.01 :1 to 1.05:1 and
8 the polymer obtained, optionally aftertreatment with a reagent for
9 deactivating NCO groups which may still be present, is subjected to
10 a molecular weight fractionation in which the low molecular weight
11 polyurethane fraction making up 10% to 50% by weight of the polymer
12 is separated off and discarded and the remaining high molecular
13 weight fractionation is recovered as the biocompatible polyurethane
14 with improved properties.

1 11. (previously presented) The method according to
2 claim 2 wherein the degree of extension is 60% to 125%.

1 12. (currently amended) The method according to claim 2
2 wherein the prosthesis or web ~~is relaxed by~~ has a slight remaining
3 extension of 3% to 5%.